



INVENTORS' DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As the below named inventors, we hereby declare that our residences, post office addresses and citizenships are as stated below next to our names; we believe we are the original, first and joint inventors of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a utility patent is sought on the invention entitled: **LOCKING SYSTEM FOR GOOSENECK TRAILER HITCH**, the specification of which was filed July 10, 2001 and assigned Serial No. 09/902,440.

We hereby state that we have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

We acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56.

We hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §§ 119(a)-(d) or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate or of any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s): NONE.

We hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

Prior United States Provisional Application(s): Serial No. 60/217,055,
filed July 10, 2000.

We hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code § 120 of any United States patent application(s), or § 365(c) of any PCT international application designating the United States of America, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT international application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations § 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

Prior U.S. or PCT Parent Application(s): NONE

We hereby declare that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

We hereby revoke any previous Powers of Attorney and appoint Courtenay B. Allen, Reg. No. 43,469; Gale R. Peterson, Reg. No. 28,823; Mark A. Kammer, Reg. No. 34,197; Pamela B. Huff, Reg. No. 35,901; and W. Bradley Barnes, Reg. No. 46,538; of the firm of Cox & Smith Incorporated, as our attorneys or agents as long as they remain with such firm, with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute the application, to make alterations and amendments therein, to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office in connection therewith, and to receive the Letters Patent.

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